NATIONAL GALLERY OF IRELAND.

REPORT

OF

THE DIRECTOR

TO THE

BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND GUARDIANS,

FOR

THE YEAR,

1896.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

DUBLIN AND TRALEE:
PRINTED FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
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1897.

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NATIONAL GALLERY OF IRELAND.

29th April, 1897.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have to submit the following Report for 1896.

The National Gallery of Ireland was open to the public, under the usual conditions, from 1st January to 31st December, with the exception of October, during which month it was closed for cleaning, &c.

Within that period the number of visitors was .

Free admissions,	65,178
(Of whom 19,099 entered on Sundays.)	
By payment,	1,576
Students' attendances,	1,290

The number of Catalogues sold was 330.

The number of new students admitted to copy was 38—36 ladies and 2 gentlemen.

The following pictures were purchased at the prices appended:—

For the general collection :—

	£	s.	d.
View in Verona, by James Holland,	60	0	0
Portrait of a Lady, ascribed to Van Dyck,	315	0	0
Interior, with figures, by W. de Poorter,	20	0	0
The Piping Boy, by N. Hone, R.A,	40	0	0
The Resurrection, by D. Teniers	25	0	0
Portrait of a Man, by Hendrick Pot	50	14	3
Interior of the Church of Delft, by E. de Witte	50	0	0
Judith and Holofernes, by Andrea Mantegna,	1,200	0	0
(Of which sum, £200 was given by Lord Ardilaun).			
Dieppe Harbour, water colour, by Samuel Austin,	16	0	0

Twenty-three original Drawings and Sketches by the following Masters :—

W. Hendriks, F Mieris, L. Van der Vinne, F. Overbeck, Rembrandt Van Rhyn, C. Netscher, A. Pynacker, C. Bega, J. Andriessen, G. Van der Eeckhout, J. de Witte, A. Van Ostade, H. Saftleven, J. Van der Ulft, J. M. Molenaer, P. Molyn, S. de Bray, J. Cats, J. Van Goyen, Luca Giordano.	33	4	0

For the Portrait Gallery :—

Plaster Bust of Bishop Doyle,	2	0	0
Portrait of Lord Hutchinson, Indian Ink, drawn by W. Evans, Engraved portraits of Lord de Blaquiere, Countess of Wicklow, Countess of Bleseington, Lady Selina Meade, and the Duke of Wellington,	8	0	0

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	£	s.	d.
Mezzotint Portrait of J. Abernethy,			
Do. do. Humphrey French,			
Do. do. Thos. Leland,			
Do. do. Sir Samuel Martin,			
Do. do. The Duke of Ormond,			
Stipple Engraving, Portrait of Capt. W. Baillie,	9	0	0
Do. do. J. Ensor,			
Line Engraving, Portrait of Isaac Barré,			
Do. do. do. Mrs. Lyons,			
Do. do. do. Duke of Tyrconnell,			
Lithograph, Portrait of Sir De Lacy Evans,			
Mezzotint, Portrait of Edward Fitzgerald,	1	2	0
Do. do. General Blakeney,	0	15	0
Do. do. Revd. J. Blachford,			
Do. do. Lord Pery,	2	10	0
Do. do. Lord Somerton,			
Do. do. Robert Shaw (2 states)	1	0	0
Do. do. Erasmus Smith,	3	0	0
Stipple Engraving, Portrait of Lord Fitzgibbon,	7	15	0
Do. do. do. Lady Duncannon,			
Do. do. do. Lord Dungarvan and others			
Line Engraving, Portrait of Lady Londonderry,			
Do. do. do. Lady De Grey,			
Do. do. do. Lady Dufferin,			
Do. do. do. Lady Flora Hastings,			
Do. do. do. Duke of Ormond,			
Lithograph, Portrait of Lady Nugent	7	0	0
Do. do. Fr. Thomas Burke,			
Do. do. Lord Enniskillen,			
Stipple Engraving, Portrait of Lady Catherine Annesley,			
Mezzotint, Portrait of Lord Bessborough,			
Do. do. Lord Fitzgibbon,			
Stipple Engraving, Portrait of Archbishop Newcome,			
Line Engraving, Portrait of Lord Beresford,	2	13	0
Do. do. do. Lady Antrim,			
Stipple Engraving, Portrait of Edmond Malone,			
Mezzotint, Portrait of Earl of Fingal,	1	10	0

The following Bequests and Donations were received during the year :—

For the General Collection :—

Presented by the Artist :—

Bronze Statuette, "The Knuckle-bone Player," by G. Natorp.

Bequeathed by Julia, Lady Fitzgerald, of 29 Merrion Square :—

Pictures :—Two Views in Venice, by E. Pritchett. A Wooded Landscape, by F. Swagers. Portrait of a Lady, ascribed to Angelica Kauffmann. A Cavalier on horseback, by Peter Potter. Miniature Portrait of Lord Castlereagh, in enamel, by Bate. Ten pieces of Old Furniture.

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During the year the following Pictures were surface-cleaned and varnished :—

No. 2a. Adoration of the Kings, by the "Master of the Death of the Virgin."
,, 4. St. Luke sketching the Virgin, after R. Van de Weyden.
,, 36a. St. Margaret, School of Liesborn.
,, 36b. St. Dorothea, ,, ,,
,, 36c. Christ before Pilate, School of Bernard Strigel.
,, 76. The Queen of Sheba, by Lavinia Fontana.
,, 81. Jupiter and Europa, by C. Maratti.
,, 120. The Transfiguration, after Raphael.
,, 186. Judith, by Lucas Cranach.
,, 296. Portrait of Sir Richard Steele, by Sir G. Kneller.
,, 336. Landscape, by J. Griffier.
,, 337. Landscape, by J. Moucheron.
,, 340. Dinner at a Farm-house, by D. Ryckaert.
,, 358. Coronation of the Virgin, School of Bernard Strigel.
,, 366. St. John, by Caravaggio.
,, 381. Titania, by G. Romney.

During the month of October the Entrance Hall and the small Dutch Gallery were repainted.

I am,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER ARMSTRONG,
Director.

P.S.—By your instructions I recite the following resolution passed unanimously by the Board at a meeting held on August 6th, 1896:—"In adopting the Director's report for 1895, the Governors and Guardians are compelled to again press upon Her Majesty's Government the imperative necessity for an extension of the gallery buildings, an increase which has been urged yearly upon the Treasury since 1890, and becomes daily more indispensable through the accumulation of Works of Art which cannot be exhibited."

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APPENDIX.

DESCRIPTION OF PICTURES AND SCULPTURES ACQUIRED DURING THE YEAR.

1. JAMES HOLLAND (1800-1870). British School.
   A view in Verona, showing portion of the ancient Amphitheatre.
   On canvas, 14½ inches high, 10½ inches wide.
   Purchased from T. M'Lean & Co, London.
   Hung in Modern Gallery, and numbered 437.

2. SIR A. VAN DYCK (ascribed to) (1599-1641). Flemish School.
   Portrait of a Lady, believed to be a princess of the house of Solme.
   Half length, in green dress.
   On canvass, 2 feet 4½ inches high, 1 foot 11 inches wide.
   Purchased from Mr. S. Gooden, London.
   Hung in Main Gallery, and numbered 438.

3. WILLEM DE POORTER (17th Century). Dutch School.
   Interior, with figures playing the game of "Main Chaud."
   On panel, 8 inches high, 10 inches wide.
   Purchased from Mr. H. Buttery, London.
   Hung in small Dutch Gallery, and numbered 439.

4. NATHANIEL HONE, R.A (1718-1784). British School.
   The Piping Boy. A young boy playing on a flute. His shirt is open at the neck, and round his shoulders is thrown a fur cloak, or skin. This picture is a portrait of Camillus Hone, one of the artist's sons, and was engraved in Mezzotint by W. Baillie in 1771.

   On canvas, 14 inches high, 12¾ inches wide.
   Purchased from Messrs. T. M'Lean & Co., London.
   Hung in Modern Gallery, and numbered 440.

5. DAVID TENIERS (1610-1690) Flemish School.
   The Resurrection. A copy by Teniers, probably from a picture in the Arch-Duke Leopold's Gallery in Brussels.
   On panel, 12 inches high ; 6 inches wide.
   Purchased from Mrs. Chadwick, Stameen, Drogheda.
   Hung in Main Gallery, and numbered 441.

6. HENDRICK POT (1600-1656). Dutch School.
   Portrait of a Man, in black dress and hat, seated at a table on which are books, papers and a globe.
   On panel, 13½ inches high ; 11½ inches wide.
   Purchased at Christie's, London.
   Hung in small Dutch Gallery, and numbered 443.

7. EMMANUEL DE WITTE (1617-1692). Dutch School.
   Interior of the New Church of Delft, with the tomb of William the Silent.
   On panel, 16½ inches high ; 13 inches wide.
   Purchased in Amsterdam, of Mr. G. Scheltema.
   Hung in small Dutch Gallery, and numbered 450

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8. ANDREA MANTEGNA (1431-1508). Italian (Paduan) School.

Judith with the head of Holofernes; Judith stands at the door of a tent, and is placing the head of Holofernes in a bag held by an old Negress; In her right hand she holds a short double-edged, square-pointed sword; her robe, hanging in beautifully studded folds, leaves her right shoulder bare. The attendant wears a loose Eastern tunic, trousers and turban. Through the opening of the tent is seen the end of a bed, with the sole of one foot of Holofernes; on the left a pole with a long pennon twisted about it. Background of feigned marble.

On linen attached to mill-board, 18 inches high; 14 inches wide.

Formerly in the collections of the Hon. Lewis Wingfield and Mr. John Malcolm of Poltalloch.

Hung in Main Gallery, and numbered 442.

9. E. PRITCHETT (19th century). British School.

Two views in Venice, The Piazza, and Piazzetta, of St. Mark.

On canvas, 13½ inches high; 11½ inches wide.

Bequeathed by Julia, Lady Fitzgerald.

Numbered 446 and 447.

10. FRANS SWAGGERS (1756-1836). Dutch School.

A Wooded Landscape, with figures and cattle.

On canvas, 10½ inches high; 8 inches wide.

Bequeathed by Julia, Lady Fitzgerald.

Numbered 448.

11. ANGELICA KAUFFMANN (ascribed to) (1741-1807).

Portrait of a Lady; half length, in low-cut, brown dress and blue, fur-trimmed mantle.

On canvass, 2 feet 6 inches high, 2 feet 1 inch wide.

Bequeathed by Julia, Lady Fitzgerald.

Numbered 444.

12. PIETER POTTER (1600-1652). Dutch School.

A Cavalier on horseback.

On panel, 5½ inches high, 6¼ inches wide. Signed, P. Potter.

Bequeathed by Julia, Lady Fitzgerald.

Hung in small Dutch Gallery, and numbered 445.

13. SAMUEL AUSTIN (1796-1834). British School.

Dieppe Harbour, water colour drawing, 11¼ inches high, 15¾ inches wide.

Purchased from Messrs. T. M'Lean & Co, London.

Hung in Water-colour Gallery.

14. WILLIAM EVANS (19th century). British School.

Portrait of Lord Hutchinson; Indian Ink drawing after a picture by T. Phillips, R.A. Engraved in Cadell's "Gallery of Contemporary Portraits," 1822.

Purchased from A. Roth, London.

Hung in Portrait Gallery.

15. GUSTAVE NATORP (Living Artist). British School.

Bronze Statuette; "The Knucklebone Player." A nude figure of a girl, seated, playing knucklebones.

Presented by the Artist.

Placed in Main Gallery.

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